

PRESIDENT ASKS FOR WAR ARMY

Tells Congress Half Million Men Should Be Raised At Once.

(Continued from page one.)

house leaders said action before tomorrow was improbable.

Must Act at Once.

President Wilson spoke as follows: "I have called the congress into extraordinary session because there are serious, very serious, choices of policy to be made, and made immediately, which it was neither right nor constitutionally permissible that I should assume the responsibility of making."

Relates Course of Germany.

"On the third of February, last, I officially told before you the extraordinary announcement of the imperial German government that on and after

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"I had been suffering for some time with a skin ailment on my lower limb which resulted from a bruise, and later took the form of something like eczema. It became sore, inflamed and scaly and began to itch and burn so that sometimes I thought it would drive me crazy. Often at night I could not bear the weight of the bedclothes on it."

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CONGRESS MUST CHOOSE COURSE

President Tells That Body He Does Not Care To Make War Alone.

(Continued from page one.)

the first day of February it was its purpose to put aside all restraints of law or of humanity and use its submarines to sink every vessel that sought to approach either the ports of Great Britain and Ireland or the west-

ern coasts of Europe or any of the ports controlled by the enemies of Germany within the Mediterranean.

Formal Proclamations Slight Enough.

"That had seemed to me the object of German submarine warfare earlier in the war, but since April of last year the imperial government had somewhat restrained the commanders of its undersea craft in conformity with its promise then given to us that passenger boats should not be sunk and that due warning would be given to all other vessels which its submarines might seek to destroy, when no resistance was offered or escape attempted, and care would be taken that their crews were given at least a fair chance to save their lives in their open boats. The precautions taken were meager and haphazard enough as was proved in distressing instances after instance in the progress of the cruel and unmanly business, but a certain degree of restraint was observed."

Restrictions Swept Aside.

"The new policy has swept every restriction aside. Vessels of every kind, whatever their flag, their character, their cargo, their destination, their errand, have been ruthlessly sent to the bottom without warning and without thought of help or mercy for those on board, the vessels of friendly neutrals along with those of belligerents."

"Even hospital ships and ships carrying relief to the sorely bereaved and stricken people of Belgium, though the latter were provided with safe conduct through the proscribed areas by the German government itself, and were distinguished by unmistakable marks of identity have been sunk with the same reckless lack of compassion or principle."

Unable to Believe in Such Violations.

"I was for a little while unable to believe that such things would in fact be done by any government that had hitherto subscribed to the humane practice of civilized nations. International law had its origin in the attempt to set up some law which would be respected and observed upon the seas where no nation had right of dominion and where lay the free highways of the world."

"So painful a stage after stage has this been built up with meager enough results, indeed, after all was accomplished that could be accomplished, but always with a clear view, at least, of what the heart and conscience of mankind demanded."

All Principles Thrown Aside.

"This minimum of right the German government has swept aside under the plea of retaliation and necessity, and because it had no weapon which it

GERMAN SYSTEM TO BE FOUGHT

German People to Be Freed as Well as Other People of the World

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could use at sea except these which it is impossible to employ as it is employing them without throwing to the winds all scruples of humanity or of respect for the understandings that were supposed to underlie the intercourse of the world."

Wilson Thinks Only of Lives Lost.

"I am not now thinking of the loss of property involved, immense and serious as this is, but only of the wanton and wholesale destruction of the lives of non-combatants, men, women and children, engaged in pursuits which have always, even in the darkest periods of modern history, been deemed innocent and legitimate. Property can be paid for; the lives of peaceful and innocent people cannot be."

U-Boat War Is Against All.

"The present German submarine warfare against commerce is a warfare against mankind. It is a warfare against all nations. American ships have been sunk, American lives taken, in ways which it stirred us very deeply to learn of, but the ships and people of other neutral and friendly nations have been sunk and overwhelmed in the waters in the same way. There has been no discrimination. The challenge is to all mankind. Each nation must decide for itself how it will meet it. The choice we make for ourselves must be made with a moderation of counsel and a temperance of judgment befitting our character and our motives as a nation. We must put excited feeling away. Our motive will not be revenge or the victorious assertion of the physical might of the nation but only the vindication of right, of human right, of which we are only a single champion."

Armed Neutrality Insufficient.

"When I addressed the congress on the 26th day of February last, I thought that it would suffice to assert our neutral rights with arms, our right to use the seas against unlawful interference, our right to keep our people safe against unlawful violence."

"But armed neutrality, it now appears, is impracticable. Because submarines are in effect outlaws; when used as the German submarines have been used against merchant shipping, it is impossible to defend ships against attacks as the law of nations has assumed that merchantment would defend themselves against privateers or cruisers, visible craft giving chase upon the open sea."

"It is common prudence in such circumstances, grim necessity indeed, to endeavor to destroy them before they have shown their own intention. They must be dealt with upon sight, if dealt with at all."

Germany Denies Right of Defence.

"The German government denies the right of neutrals to use arms at all within the areas of the seas which it

SHOWS HOW GERMANY HAS MADE SECRET AND OPEN WAR ON U. S.

Shows How Germany Has Made Secret and Open War on U. S.

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has proscribed, even in the defence of rights which no modern publicist has ever before questioned their right to defend. This is the case of the armed guards which we have placed on our merchant ships which will be treated as beyond the pale of law and subject to be dealt with as pirates would be."

Armed Neutrality Provokes War.

"Armed neutrality which we have sought at best in such circumstances and in the face of such pretensions is worse than ineffectual; it is like, at once to produce what it was meant to prevent; it is practically certain to draw us into the war without either the rights or the effectiveness of belligerents."

"There is one choice we cannot make, we are incapable of making; we will not choose the path of submission and suffer the most sacred rights of our nation and our people to be ignored or violated."

Asks War Declaration.

"The world is not now common wrong; they sink to the very roots of human life."

"WITH A PROFOUND SENSE OF THE SOLEMN AND EVEN TRAGIC CHARACTER OF THE STEP I AM TAKING AND OF THE GRAVE RESPONSIBILITIES WHICH IT INVOLVES, BUT IN UNHESITATING OBEDIENCE TO WHAT I DEEM MY CONSTITUTIONAL DUTY, I ADVISE THAT THE CONGRESS DECLARE THE RECENT COURSE OF THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT TO BE NOTHING LESS THAN WAR AGAINST THE UNITED STATES AND PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES."

"I FORMALLY ACCEPT THE STATUS OF BELLIGERENT WHICH HAS BEEN THROWN UPON IT, AND THAT IT TAKE IMMEDIATE STEPS NOT ONLY TO PUT THE COUNTRY IN A MORE THOROUGH STATE OF DEFENCE, BUT ALSO TO EXERT ALL ITS POWER AND EMPLOY ALL ITS RESOURCES TO BRING THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GERMAN EMPIRE TO TERMS AND END THE WAR."

Asks Cooperation With Entente.

"What this will involve is clear. It will involve the closest cooperation in counsel and action with the governments now at war with Germany, and, as incident to that, the extension to those governments of the most liberal financial credits, in order that our resources may, so far as possible, be put at their disposal."

"It will involve the mobilization of all the material resources of the country to supply the materials of war and serve the incidental needs of the nation in the most abundant, and yet the most economical and efficient way possible."

Must Equip Navy.

"It will involve the immediate full equipment of all aspects, but particularly in supplying it with the best means of dealing with the enemy's submarines."

"It will involve the immediate addition to the armed forces of the United States already provided for by law in case of war, at least 500,000 men, who should be chosen on the principle of universal liability to service, and also the authorization of subsequent additional increments of equal force so soon as they may be needed and can be handled in training."

Would Guard Against Inflation.

"It will involve, also, of course, the granting of adequate credits to the government, sustained, I hope, so far as they can equitably be sustained, by the present generation by well conceived taxation. I say sustained so far as may be equitable by taxation because it seems to me that it would be most unwise to have the credits which will now be necessary entirely on money borrowed."

"It is our duty, I most respectfully urge, to protect our people so far as we may against the very serious hardships and evils which would be likely to arise out of the inflation which would be produced by vast loans."

Must Prepare Ourselves Fully.

"In carrying out the measures by which these things are accomplished, we should keep constantly in mind the wisdom of interfering as little as possible in our own operation and in the equipment of our own military forces with the duty—for it will be a very practical duty of supplying the nations already at war with Germany with the materials which they can obtain only from us or by our assistance. They are in the field and we should help them in every way to be effective there."

Will Outline Plans for Congress.

"I shall take the liberty of stating, through the several executive departments of the government for the consideration of your committee, measures for the accomplishment of the several objects I have mentioned. I hope that it will be your pleasure to deal with them as having been framed after very careful thought by the branch of the government upon which the responsibility of conducting the war and safeguarding the nation will most directly fall."

Let World Know Our Motives.

"While we do these things, these deeply momentous things, let us be very clear and make very clear to all the world what our motives and our objects are. My own thought has not been driven from its habitual and normal course by the unhappy events of the last two months, and I do not believe that the thought of the nation has been altered or clouded by them."

Would Violate Principles of Peace.

"I have exactly the same things in mind that I had in mind when I addressed the senate on the 2nd of January last; the same that I had in mind when I addressed the congress on the third day of February, and on the 26th of February. Our object now, as then, is to vindicate the principles of peace and justice in the life of the world as against selfish and autocratic power and to set up against the privilege of the strong a guarantee for the weak and self-governed peoples of the world such a concert of purpose and of action as will henceforth insure the observance of these principles."

Neutrality No Longer Desirable.

"Neutrality is no longer feasible or desirable where the peace of the world is involved and the menace to that peace and freedom lies in the existence of autocratic governments backed by organized force which is controlled wholly by their will, not by the will of their people. We have seen at of neutrality in such circumstances."

No Quarrel With German People.

"We are at the beginning of the age in which it will be insisted that the same standards of conduct and of responsibility for wrong doing shall be observed among nations and governments that are observed among the individual citizens of civilized states."

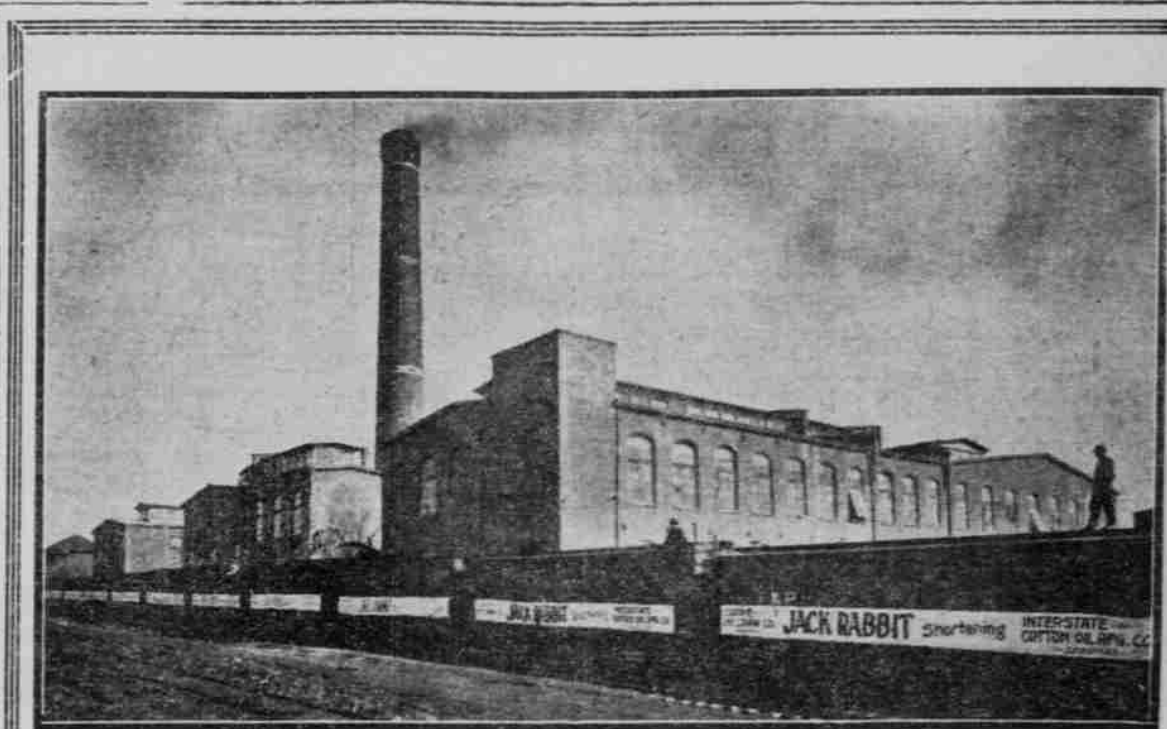
"We have no quarrel with the German people. We have no feeling of hostility toward them but one of sympathy and friendship. It was not upon their impulse that their government acted in entering this war."

It Was War Forced on Them.

"It was not with their previous knowledge or approval it was a war determined upon as wars used to be determined on in the old, unhappy days when peoples were governed by despots and their rulers and wars were provoked and waged in the interests of dynasties or of little groups of ambitious men who were accustomed to use their fellow men as pawns and tools."

Denounces Acts of Autocracy.

"Self-governed nations do not fill their neighbor states with spies or set the course of intrigue to bring about some critical posture of affairs which will give them an opportunity to strike and make conquest. Such



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Plans Must Be Kept From Light.

"The plans of deception or aggression, carried, it may be, from generation to generation, can be kept out of the light only with the privacy of confidences and the carefully guarded confidences of a narrow and privileged class. They are happily impossible where public opinion commands and insists upon full information concerning all the nation's affairs."

Must Be League of Honor.

"A steadfast concert for peace can never be maintained except by a partnership of democratic nations. No autocratic government could be trusted to keep faith within it or observe its covenants. It must be a league of honor, a partnership of opinion. Intrigue would eat its vitals away; the plotting of inner circles who could plan what they would and render account to no one would be a corruption seated at its very heart. Only free peoples can hold their purpose and their honor steadily to a common end and prefer the interests of mankind to any narrow interest of their own."

Refers to Russian Overthrow.

"Does not every American feel that assurance has been added to our hope for the future peace of the world by the wonderful and heartening things that have been happening within the last few weeks in Russia?"

Russia Always in Fact Democratic.

"Russia was known by those who knew it best, to have been always in fact democratic, in all the vast habits of her thought, in all the intimate relationships of her people that spoke their natural instinct, their habitual attitude towards life."

Autocracy Not Russian.

"The autocracy that crowded the summit of her political structure, long as it had stood and terrible as was the reality of its power, was not in fact Russian in origin, character or purpose; and now it has been shaken off and the great, generous Russian people have added to the native majesty and might to the forces that are fighting for freedom in the world, for justice and for peace. There is a fit partner for a league of honor."

Has Set Spies For U. S.

"One of the things that has served to convince us that the Prussian autocracy was not and could never be our friend is that from the very outset of the present war it has filled our unsuspecting communities and even our offices of government with spies and set criminal intrigues everywhere afoot against our national unity of council, our peace within and without, our industries and our commerce."

"Indeed, it is now evident that its spies were here even before the war began; and it is unhappy not a matter of conjecture, but a fact, proved in our courts of justice, that the intrigues which have more than once come perilously near to disturbing the peace of the world, the industries of the country have been carried on at the instigation, with the support, and even the personal direction of official agents of the imperial government credited to the government of the United States."

No Ill Feeling Against Germans.

"Even in checking these things and trying to extirpate them we have sought to put the most generous interpretations possible upon them because we knew that their source lay, not in any hostile feeling or purpose of the German people toward us (who were, no doubt, as ignorant of them as we ourselves were), but only in the selfish designs of a government that did what it pleased and told its people nothing."

We Accept Challenge.

"But they have played their part in serving to convince us at last that that government entertains no real friendship for us and means to act against our peace and security at its convenience. That it means to stir up enemies against us at our very doors, the intercepted note to the German minister at Mexico City is eloquent evidence."

We Are Glad to Fight.

"We are now about to accept the gaze of battle with this nation foe to liberty and duty, if necessary, spend our lives in the defense of the world."

(Continued on Page 8.)



Hello Bobby, what you got there?

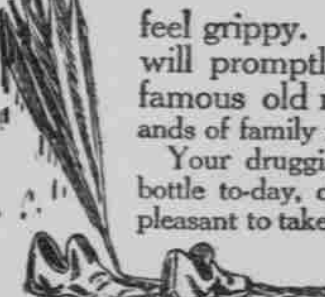
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